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2 The Westfield Washington Township Board of Zoning Appeals met at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday,
3 July 13, 2010 at Westfield City Hall. Members present included Dan Degnan, Randy Graham,
4 Bill Sanders, Craig Wood, and Martin Raines. Also present were Kevin Todd, Senior Planner;
5 and City Attorney, Brian Zaiger.
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8 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
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10 Wood moved to approve the June 15, 2010 minutes as presented.
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12 Degnan seconded, and the motion passed by voice vote.
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14 Sanders reviewed the Public Hearing Rules and Procedures.
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17 **NEW BUSINESS**
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19 **1007-VU-03**

20 **PUBLIC HEARING**

800 East Main Street; *Northside Guns*

The Appellant is requesting a Variance of Use from the Westfield-Washington Zoning Ordinance (WC 16.04.050, D2) to allow for an Indoor Shooting Range; located in the LB District.
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24 Todd introduced the petition which is to allow an indoor shooting range. He listed some
25 neighboring uses, including a residential neighborhood, commercial retail, and a private school.
26 He stated that after staff's review and analysis, the recommendation is to deny this petition.
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28 Mr. Harold Hill, Northside Guns, stated that they are already allowed to sell guns, but tonight
29 they are requesting to offer on-site training as well.
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31 Mr. Guy Relford, Tactical Firearms Training, LLC, discussed details of the type of training,
32 including a comprehensive gun law class which covers every aspect from owning a gun to
33 carrying, licensing, and use of firearms. He addressed the concerns raised by staff including
34 safety and property values.
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36 A Public Hearing opened at 7:18 p.m.
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38 Mr. Bob Hart spoke in favor of the variance and believes it would be good for the area.
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40 Mr. Tom Trentman stated that this business is surrounded on four sides by residential and a
41 school and does not believe this is the type of business we need in a residential neighborhood.
42

43 Ms. Jennifer Nordon stated her opposition to this range which would be adjacent to her property.
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45 Ms. Melody Jones stated her opposition to this particular location for a shooting range.
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47 The Public Hearing closed at 7:25 p.m.

48 Wood asked about the variety of guns for sale.

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2 Hill responded that a wide range of market including hunting, personal protection, sports, etc.

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4 Wood asked if a wide range of ammunition would also be sold.

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6 Hill responded that there would be a wide range of ammunition sold at the business.

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8 Wood asked for clarification about whether the supervision would be certified or not.

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10 Hill discussed the types of classes and training offered.

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12 Wood asked about days and hours of operation.

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14 Hill responded that the desire is to be open seven days a week, with the hours of 9:00 a.m. to
15 9:00 p.m. Monday thru Saturday, and 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday.

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17 Degnan commented that he will likely be voting against this request based on the statements
18 found in the staff report.

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20 Graham encouraged the petitioner to offer the training, even if denied.

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22 Hill responded that not having the hands-on aspect of the training without the range would not be
23 as beneficial as having the training with the range.

24
25 Sanders expressed his concern with inadequate parking at the facility. He further stated that his
26 biggest concern is that there is a restaurant/bar across the street. He expressed great concern
27 with the possibility of mixing alcohol with guns at this location. Sanders further expressed
28 concerns with the noise levels associated with large-caliber guns.

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30 Degnan moved to deny 1007-VU-03.

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32 Raines seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

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34 Sanders stated that he would like to see something like this in the community, and encouraged
35 the Appellant to seek out alternative locations within the community.

36
37 Wood expressed his concern of being within close proximity to the restaurant/bar, and stated that
38 he believes this is a good service for the community, just at a different location.

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40 Raines moved to adopt staff's finding of fact.

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42 Degnan seconded, and the motion passed by voice vote.

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44 The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

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Chairman

Secretary